



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

MAYOR DICK MURPHY

**San Diego Science & Technology Commission
MEETING MINUTES**

The San Diego Science and Technology Commission (SDS&TC) held a regularly scheduled meeting on, June 18, 2003, at Community and Economic Development 600 B Street, 4th floor Large Conference Room, San Diego, CA 92101.

- I. **CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL:** Dr. Martha Dennis, SDS&TC Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m. Members present: Craig Andrews, Dr. Hui Cai, Jon Cohen, Dr. Martha Dennis, Susan Myrland, Tyler Orion, Carrie Stone and Julie Meier Wright. Members absent: Scott Corlett, Dr. Tom Dillon, Vicki Marion, Richard Polanco Jr., Deputy Commander Scott Randall, and Maurice Wilson. Others Present: Community & Economic Development Department staff members Toni Dillon, Tina Hines, and Jeff Kavar; City Planning Department staff members Lora Brill and Jean Cameron.
- II. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.
- III. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR:** April 23, 2003.
(MOTION/SECOND/Wright/Orion/UNANIMOUS)
- IV. **COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE**
 - A. Digital Divide Follow-On Study: To avoid conflict of interest concerns, Ms. Tyler Orion, President and CEO of the San Diego Regional Technology Alliance (SDRTA), recused herself from the room during discussion of this item.

Toni Dillon presented and requested that the Commission support the Economic Development Division's (EDD) execution of a contract with the San Diego Regional Technology Alliance (SDRTA), utilizing Commission funding, in the amount of \$24,900, to develop a Digital Inclusion Economic Prosperity follow-on study to the SDRTA's San Diego Digital Divide Study Update, 2003.

She stated that members of non-profit entities can be exempt from Government Code 1090 under specific circumstances. SDRTA is a 501(c) 3 corporation that has successfully partnered with foundations, community organizations and policy makers seeking to understand and bridge the digital divide.

Dillon stated that SDRTA was selected for the following reasons: 1) SDRTA has demonstrated unique expertise in this subject area by being the first firm to develop a detailed report on the digital divide specific to San Diego in 2001 and by updating this study in 2003; 2) contract cost savings (as much as \$40,000) are certain due to the fact that SDRTA already has developed much of the necessary base information for the follow-on study and given that the SDRTA has submitted a relatively low hourly fee proposal for conducting the study; and 3) SDRTA's proposal and thorough understanding of the San Diego specific issues assures S&TC members that the follow-on study can be expeditiously completed within the calendar year.

Mr. Craig Andrews moved that the Commission approve expenditure of not more than \$25,000 to fund the SDRTA follow-on study. Included in this motion were the Commission's recommendations that the study be a targeted policy study that addressed opportunity cost concerns, no-cost grant options, in-kind contributions and district specific solutions for the implementation of digital divide solutions for city of San Diego residents. In addition, Community and Economic Development was charged with reporting back to the Commission the results of this study and the policy recommendations (MOTION/SECOND/Andrews/Dennis/UNANIMOUS). Jeff Kavar volunteered to contact the San Diego Workforce Partnership (SDWP) for funding contributions and collaboration for this study.

- B. Staff Report Update: Dillon stated that the Mission Trails Technology Park project is gaining community support and continues to move forward. She reported that the Business Expansion Attraction and Retention (BEAR) Team will soon complete a fiscal year 2003 report. In addition, she requested that the Commission consider inviting executives from the bio-life science industry as a future agenda item to discuss the state of the industry in San Diego.

V. SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATES

- A. Digital Divide Subcommittee/Digital Inclusion Working Group Update: Dr. Dennis stated that Todd Gutshaw with Classroom of the Future Foundation gave a presentation at the DWIG meeting held June 11, 2003. She continued that she would email interested Commissioners the minutes of this meeting.
- B. Portal Technology Subcommittee Update: This update was tabled until our next meeting.

VI. SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY INDUSTRY TRADE ORGANIZATIONS PRESENTATION

- A. The Economic Prosperity Element of the General Plan Update: Jean Cameron, Senior Planner with the City Planning Department reported that the City's existing Industrial, Commercial, and Redevelopment Elements will be incorporated into a new Economic Prosperity Element. This Plan governs land-use policy for the next twenty

years in the city of San Diego. Cameron stated that the Economic Prosperity Element will contain coordinated and comprehensive economic prosperity goals, objectives and implementation measures to address key issues. The key issues are: 1) Employment land use and availability; 2) Expansion and diversification of the employment base; 3) Regional Infrastructure; 3) Equitable Development; 4) Education and Workforce Development; 5) United States - Mexico border.

Cameron requested input about the key issues included in the Economic Prosperity Element from the Commission. Stating that when ever possible this input would be integrated into policy that will be proposed to City Council. Upon her conclusion, Cameron asked the Science and Technology Commission if she could attend a future meeting with updated news.

Ms. Julie Meier Wright suggested that the Commission could assist Cameron by organizing a half day forum to allow for industries comments to the proposed Economic Prosperity Element. Furthermore, she volunteered to contact a consultant to facilitate at this event.

Ms. Wright moved that the Commission empower an annual subcommittee to structure an event to receive a report out on the state of the science and technology industries. This annual event would out reach to CEOs involved in the life science and other technology industries including computers and peripherals, electronics, software, defense and manufacturing. This motion included having subcommittee take charge of structuring this year's event and was allocated \$10K dollars for this purpose. The possible structure of this event was to be similar to the Partnership for the New Economy seminars hosted by the EDC. The topic at this year's event would include soliciting input for the Economic Prosperity Element to the General Plan Update (MOTION/SECOND/Wright/Dennis/UNANIMOUS).

The Commission agreed to call the subcommittee the Partnership for Economic Prosperity (PEP). Members include Martha Dennis, Toni Dillon, Julie Meier Wright, and Jean Cameron. The first meeting of PEP was scheduled for 2PM on July 16, 2003 at the Economic Development Corporation.

- VII. UPCOMING MEETINGS: The next regular meeting will be September 17, 2003 from 3 PM to 5PM.
- VIII. ADJOURN: There being no further business of the Commission; this meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM.